

NAB's petition 04-160

As a subscriber to satellite radio I do not believe that the broadcast industry should be allowed to determine the content from which I can select. The choice between options is based on perceived value and in a competitive market system the use of regulation to gain advantage must not be allowed. If the NAB is successful in it's bid to block the offering of local information such as weather & traffic what is the next step? Maybe the blockage, in a specific market, of news stories originating in that market.

The reason that I originally subscribed was to escape the inane constant babble of local personalities whose objectives appear to be the elevation of their "celebrity" status. The improvements in selection & broadcast quality which satellite radio offer pose a formidable but valid challenge to traditional broadcasting. This challenge should however be met by competition and not by protectionist regulation.

If the traditional broadcast industry feels threatened by this new competition they should look not for protection but for ways to increase the value of their offering.